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Date: November 7, 2007 Name: Gustavo Siller, Jr. Signature: _____

Our Case No. 9281-4602
Client ref. J US02093-Normal

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Hiroshi Shigetaka

Serial No. 10/618,864

Filing Date: July 14, 2003

For ELECTROSTATIC-
CAPACITANCE-TYPE
COORDINATE INPUT DEVICE

Examiner: STEVEN E HOLTON

Group Art Unit No. 2629
Confirmation No. 6963

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450Brinks2007

Dear Sir:

This communication is in response to the Office Action dated August 22, 2007.

Amendments to Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.

AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

1. (Currently Amended) An input device comprising:
an electrostatic-capacitance-type input sensor including a flexible substrate;
a plurality of X electrodes that are formed on one surface of the flexible substrate and that are disposed on an insulating layer and a plurality of Y electrodes that are disposed on thean insulating layer; and
an extension section that is extended from the flexible substrate,
wherein the X and Y electrodes are connected to a non-flexible circuit substrate provided on one surface of the extension section, and the other surface of the flexible substrate of the electrostatic-capacitance-type input sensor is bonded to the reverse surface of a curved portion of a support plate, and the other surface of the flexible substrate of the extension section is bonded to a flattened portion continuously disposed from the curved portion so that an input operation is conducted by performing a bending contact operation along the obverse surface of the curve portion without viewing the electrostatic-capacitance type input sensor and the circuit substrate from an outer surface.
2. (Original) An electrostatic-capacitance-type coordinate input device according to Claim 1, wherein a recess to which the input sensor is fitted is formed on the rear surface of said support plate at a position where said input sensor is bonded.
3. (Previously Presented) An electrostatic-capacitance-type coordinate input device according to Claim 1, wherein a pointing section for pointing a position of said input sensor is formed in said support plate.
4. - 7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) A device, comprising;

an input device having a coordinate-input sensor formed on a flexible substrate and having an electrode layer that includes a plurality of X electrodes and Y electrodes formed on one surface of the flexible substrate for detecting electrostatic capacitance;

a device housing having an insulating portion having obverse and reverse sides, the obverse side being exposed;

wherein the input sensor is disposed on the reverse side of the insulating portion and an input operation is performable at the obverse side,

wherein the coordinate-input sensor has an extension section, a non-flexible circuit substrate to which the electrodes are connected, the non-flexible circuit substrate being disposed on one surface of the extension section, the other surface of the flexible substrate of the input sensor ~~being~~ ~~being~~ bonded to the reverse surface of a curved portion of a support plate, and the other surface of the flexible substrate of the extension section being bonded to a flattened portion of a support plate continuously disposed from the curved portion, so that an input operation is conducted by performing a ~~bonding~~ contact operation along the obverse surface of the curve portion without viewing the electrostatic-capacitance type input sensor and the circuit substrate from an outer surface.

9. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 8, wherein the input sensor is bonded to an arcuate section formed in the insulating portion.

10. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 8, wherein the input sensor is bonded to a recessed area formed in the reverse side.

11. (Previously Presented) An electrostatic-capacitance-type coordinate input device according to Claim 1, wherein the reverse surface of the flexible substrate

corresponding to the extension section is bonded to a rear surface of a planar portion of the insulating support plate.

12. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 8, wherein the reverse surface of the flexible substrate corresponding to the extension section is bonded to a rear surface of a planar portion of the insulating support plate.

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 and 8-12 are pending in the application. Claims 4-7 remain cancelled. Claims 1 and 8 are amended.

At page 2 of the office action, Examiner states that Claims 1-3 and 8-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 2nd paragraph as failing to comply with the written description requirement in that the specification does not describe "input operation is conducted by performing a bonding operation along the obverse surface of the curve portion."

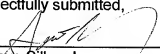
Claims 1 and 8 recite the input operation is conducted by performing a *contact* operation along the obverse surface. A contact operation is described in the application. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that Examiner withdraw the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112 2nd paragraph.

At page 4, Examiner states Applicants arguments in the previous amendment/reply are moot in view of the 112 2nd paragraph rejection above. Notwithstanding the mootness, Examiner states he would still reject Claims 1-3 and 9-12 of the application under the combination of the Gerpheide et al. (US 6,680,731) in view of Gerpheide (US 5,861,875). Applicant notes that Examiner has not stated that Claim 8 would stand rejected as well. However, a rejection against Claim 8 is implied because Claims 9-12 are based on Claim 8.

Both Claims 1 and 8 recite that the input sensor is bonded to the reverse surface of a curved portion of a support plate. Neither of the references discloses bonding the input sensor to a support plate. In Fact, Gerpheide et al. discourages the use of any supporting surface for the input device. (col 5, lines 59-62). One of ordinary skill with these references would not use a support plate to hold an input sensor, such as the one disclosed in the present application, in place. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that Examiner reconsider the Claims and withdraw the rejections against Claims 1 and Claim 8 and Claims 2-3 and 9-12 because they are based on Claims 1 and 8 respectively.

Applicants believe that the arguments presented herein are sufficient to overcome the several rejections. Accordingly, allowance of all the claims is respectfully requested. Should the examiner deem a telephone conference to be of assistance in advancing the application to allowance, the examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,



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November 7, 2007
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